



## Flashback Friday

from 6-9 a.m.

with **Commander's Corner**

from 7-8 a.m.

## News Briefs

### Guardisman dies in local hospital

Lt. Col. James I. Wilson died of apparent natural causes Feb. 13 in a Trier hospital. Lt. Col. Wilson, assigned to the 164th Air National Guard, Memphis, Tenn., was taking part in his two-week annual Guard training with the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron here. An autopsy conducted by the medical examiner at Landstuhl Army Regional Medical Center is required to determine the official cause of death.

### Change of command

Lt. Col. Scott Fischer assumed command of the 606th Air Control Squadron Feb. 14 in a ceremony held in Hangar 3. He was previously assigned to the USAF Weapons School at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.

The former commander of the 606th ACS, Lt. Col. James L. Dew, Jr., has been reassigned to the Defense Threat Reduction Agency in Fort Belvoir, Va.

### New race, ethnic categories

Airmen can now claim more than one race in their official personnel files. As part of the data conversion, some airmen's race designations will automatically be changed to fit the new categories. The new choices are part of a government-wide effort to standardize race data.

Visit the Virtual Military Personnel Flight by clicking the "vMPF" button at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>. Descriptions of each race category will be available on the "personal information" page under the "records review" link. Call Staff Sgt. Tommy Ziegler, 52nd Mission Support Squadron, at 452-6553 for details.

### Award ceremony change of location

The 52nd Fighter Wing Annual Communications and Information Professionals award ceremony takes place Wednesday at 2 p.m. in the Saber Club ballroom. Call Tech. Sgt. Delanie Rogers at 452-7961 for details.

### AFSA meeting

The Air Force Sergeant's Association meets Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in the Spang Club. A free self-serve lunch begins at 11 a.m. Call Master Sgt. Jeffrey Wepner at 452-5370 for details or to reserve seats.

### Medical clinic closure

Most 52nd Medical Group services are closed March 6 for medical readiness training, contingency exercises and commander's call. Services normally offered on down days, holidays and weekends are available. For urgent care, visit the Bitburg Annex hospital emergency room.

## More deploy

Yet another wave of Spangdahlem Air Base airmen board a jet bound for the Central Command Area of Responsibility.

See the photo feature, "Last of the First Wave," on Page 4



# Eifel Times

Vol. 37, Issue 7

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

Feb. 21, 2003



Staff Sgt. Tim Cook

### One man's trash, a dog's treasure

Staff Sgt. Rex Crites, 52nd Security Forces Squadron, and military working dog Apoll inspect luggage during a recent training scenario at the base kennels. For the past few weeks, the 52nd SFS MWD section has had a call out for used luggage donations. Handlers use the suitcases to conduct daily drug and explosive detection training. People may drop off donations with a security forces member at Spangdahlem Air Base building 362 or call Staff Sgt. Brent Sanders at 452-6511 or 452-6716 for pick up.

## 'Bundeswehr' to man base gates providing security forces support

Training begins next week; drivers encouraged to have IDs and papers ready

By **Airman 1st Class Amaani F. Lyle**  
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

A memorandum signed Feb. 13 by U.S. and German military officials outlined an initiative for the German armed forces to provide host nation troops to guard gates at Spangdahlem, Ramstein, and Rhein-Main air bases.

The unprecedented change in policy will lessen the strain of U.S. security forces, who provide security both at home bases and forward locations, all while attempting to maintain proficiency and training requirements.

"This change not only benefits security forces, but greatly enhances our relations with our host nation," said Col. Stephen Mueller, 52nd Fighter Wing commander. "The Germans are stepping up to assist us in the global war on terrorism."

According to Capt. Erik Bruce, 52nd Security Forces Squadron operations officer, the transition will be swift.

(The Bundeswehr), with the help of a German national employee, will learn security forces fundamentals in their native language. "Upon completion of training, we will conduct joint operations on the installation gates until the full transfer of authority," he said. "The entire process will take less than two weeks."

In response to potential concerns regarding language barriers and confusion, which could lead to delays at the gates, the operations officer stressed exercising patience and following the same procedures that have been in place all along.

"Be prepared to show proper identification and a second form or registration papers as requested," he said. "If there is any doubt as to how to proceed, simply request to speak with a U.S. security forces liaison, who will be present to assist with any situation."

Capt. Bruce said security forces will retain control of installation patrols, law enforcement functions, and customer support functions, including pass and registration. Guards will



Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey

Senior Airman Michael Kasper, 52nd Security Forces Squadron, checks identification cards at the Spangdahlem Air Base front gate. Within the next few weeks, trained members of the German military will be checking IDs at the base gates.

direct traffic, issue visitor's passes and search cars and trucks entering the bases. They will not get involved with law enforcement.

Though the planning and implementation process of the new policy has created a unity of effort between the Bundeswehr and security forces, higher force protection conditions will call for heightened and sustained anti-terrorism measures from all members of the community, said the captain.

"Please utilize staggered schedules, carpooling and shuttle bus services to the maximum extent possible during these times," he said.

"We need this help, and the German soldiers are fully qualified and highly trained," said Col. Mueller. "There will be no decrease in protection to base members or facilities."





## Coping with the challenges of Enduring Freedom

# Understanding deployment phases can help families keep it together

By Airman 1st Class Amaani F. Lyle  
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

With current deployments showing no apparent signs of relent, changes in lifestyle back home can give the military family a barrage of financial, legal and family separation issues to face. But what of the psychological and emotional needs of Team Eifel members?

According to Lifelines Services Network, a Web site designed to provide information related to military matters, active-duty and family members alike can combat stress and adeptly cope with separation, if they learn to recognize the psychology involved. Generally, there are seven identifiable stages that many family members endure in three phases.

The first phase is predeployment.

### Anticipation of loss

Tensions rise and tempers flare as active-duty members have already begun the process of mental separation, a coping mechanism to ease the inevitable pain of being apart. Moodiness and depression typically only makes matters worse because it causes friction between family members.

### Detachment and withdrawal

Feelings begin to peak just before deployment and despite all there is to do, family members can find neither the time nor energy to complete even the smallest of tasks. Remaining energy is typically used running last minute errands instead of spending time together.

The second phase takes place during the deployment.

### Emotional disorganization

After the active-duty spouses have deployed and tears have been shed, spouses back at home station comes to the realization that the house is all theirs. They can stay up late, dominate the remote control and even with the kids around, feel like they're the king or queen of the castle.

### Recovery and stabilization

The active-duty members and spouses have remained in touch by way of phone calls and e-mail, which are inspiring. Spouses can fix broken appliances, bake cookies and write letters. Spouses realize their independence, abilities, and enduring strength.

### Anticipation of homecoming

Questions and excitement brew a few weeks before the deployment comes to an end. Though spouses back home are happy to hear of their life partner's return, they're in survival mode. The show must go on and they continue to maintain the household.

The third phase is post-deployment.

### Renegotiation of the marriage contract

**A technical sergeant kisses his spouse goodbye before going on deployment Feb. 13. Although deployments are a typical part of the military lifestyle, they're still a strain on families. Understanding the psychological changes family members typically experience before, during and after deployment can help members endure the challenges of temporary separation.**

Staff Sgt. Tim Cook

Once military spouses returned home, reality sets in. Changes need to be made to the lifestyle family members have become accustomed to — and that's not easy. The loss of independence feels stifling at first, but the feeling will pass in time, with spousal communication and readjustments. Loving intimacy returns and military families find a way to work together as a team again.

### Reintegration and stabilization

Families breathe a sigh of relief as stability returns. The first couple of months of post-deployment have given members the time to hammer out the details. It's reassuring to the home spouse to know they alone in caring for household responsibilities anymore. It feels like just yesterday both spouses were in each others arms the day of the deployment.

For more information on deployment counseling call the family support center at 452-6422, EDIS at 452-8238 or the base chapel at 452-6711.

## Accidents

By John W. Keeler  
52nd Security Forces Squadron  
Reports and Analysis

Seventeen Team Eifel members experienced vehicle accidents in the past week, two of which were major.

The first happened on K200 near Beilingen. An airman attempting to pass a school bus collided with an approaching vehicle. The security forces investigation found the airman couldn't have seen approaching traffic and was charged for causing a major accident related to improper passing. There were no injuries reported. Damage to the airman's vehicle sustained some damage. The other vehicle was considered a total loss.

The second was on L-39 near Speicher. An airman lost control of her vehicle and crashed into a ditch after her tire blew while she was traveling on a winding road. There were no injuries.



The vehicle sustained disabling damage and was towed from the scene.

The 15 minor accidents involved:

- 10 from inattentive driving.
- One identified as speed too fast for conditions.
- One from wildlife.
- Three from backing.

In addition, 40 citations were issued.

### Reporting an accident

Security forces members have recently witnessed an influx of people being charged for failing to report an accident and not making the necessary reporting as identified in Spangdahlem Air Base Instruction 31-204.

In accordance with Para. 3.37.1., vehicle operators involved in traffic accidents on the installation will immediately notify security forces, regardless of the degree of damage. Failure to report involvement in a traffic accident or fleeing the scene will result in a traffic citation.

Also, under Para. 3.37.2., drivers involved in traffic accidents off base must immediately report the accident to security forces and the German Polizei. People involved in traffic accidents must remain at the scene if injuries or damage to property of others is inflicted.

## Drive sober

Designate a driver when planning to drink, but if something goes wrong call **Ride for Life** at **06575-1010**.





Staff Sgt. Tim Cook

Members of the 52nd Security Forces Squadron Delta Flight make up this week's Top Saber Team.

## Top Saber Team

**Unit Name:** 52nd Security Forces Squadron Delta Flight

**Unit Responsibilities:** Provides force protection and law enforcement services for more than 13,500 assigned Team Eifel members. The flight works the night shift on a three days on, three days off schedule. Despite 14-hour days, its members effectively manage all incidents involving U.S. personnel working and living in the Eifel region. Wing leaders consistently recognize this hard-charging flight of professionals for outstanding performance in their daily duty performance as well as in their ability to rise to extraordinary levels to meet special contingencies.

**Number of Members:** 51

**Team's latest contributions to 52nd Fighter Wing mission success:** The flight recently busted a local crime ring that was systematically looting U.S. cars located in Speicher government-leased housing area. Using superior police investigative techniques to pin-point patterns in the timing and location of the crime and following it up with old fashioned foot patrolling, the team broke the ring up by catching the main perpetrator in the act. The team also arrested the suspect and convinced him to name his accomplices. Eventually four local suspects were implicated and arrested by security forces members or by local Polizei. Another significant event Delta flight expertly handled was a domestic incident in government-leased housing involving major property damage, alcohol and drugs expanded into a full-blown suicide attempt. Flight patrols arrived on scene and successfully restrained the subject, preventing the individual from harming himself.

**Team's Other Contributions Throughout the Year:** "DELTA flight has been absolutely phenomenal in maintaining good order and discipline for the 52 Fighter Wing," said Lt. Col. Larry Laird, 52nd Security Forces Squadron commander. "All my security forces flights are awesome, but Delta flight has managed to consistently top the chart in handling critical and sensitive incidents as well as community policing. Master Sgt. William Ealey and his flight leadership have developed a well led, capable and cohesive unit of solid professionals which the wing has a full right to be proud of."

The flight continues to guard the night, keeping Spangdahlem Air Base safe while simultaneously preparing for their share of deployments and tasking.

## Eifel Salutes

### 52nd Medical Group

Eureka! Staff Sgt. Michael Dillard found what he was looking for with his outstanding and timely research on personnel training issues. It took heart for Lt. Col. Diane Deyak and Ms. Melissa Lindstrom to jump into action when a tester's heart rate exceeded limits on the cycle ergometry test. Their constant vigilance ensured the treatment of a potentially fatal heart arrhythmia in the patient. Patients and staff alike think Staff Sgt. Jeff Blochowiak is on the "cusp" of greatness — his work ethic and customer-oriented approach make him an asset to the periodontal maintenance section. Tech. Sgt. Billy D. Bailey showed he could lead the way by escorting a patient safely to Wilford Hall Medical Center. Hip, hip, hooray for Regina Vogt, Fantasy Gentner and Ingrid Boettel — the terrific trio devoted a week of their time helping the squadron commander's support staff!

### 52nd Operations Group

Capt. Shane Palmer and his team: 1st Lt. Olen Freeman, Staff Sgt. Andrea Brown, Airman 1st Class Joshua Meador, and Airman David Dixon used their wits to make "Team Eifel Ready" in preparing the intel function of the 52nd Fighter Wing. Master Sgt. Daniel Hobbs, Tech. Sgt. Paul V. Patrick, Staff Sgt. Rease Wold and Staff Sgt. Brian McIntier were detected for outstanding cross-group teamwork and their commissioning of the 5.6 million euro approach surveillance radar. The radar is an essential tool to safely launch and recover aircraft at Spangdahlem Air Base. The relocation eases the Rhein-Main transition program.

*Kudos to all, Team Eifel salutes you!*

(Compiled by Airman First Class Amaani F. Lyle, 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office)

## Spang 'Hawks' test smart bombs

By 2nd Lt. Gerardo Gonzalez  
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Two Spangdahlem Air Base F-16 CJs, armed with the 52nd Fighter Wing's newest munitions, attacked the Aberporth Range in the west coast of Britain Feb. 12 to evaluate the newly acquired weapons.

The multi-role fighters from the 23rd Fighter Squadron "Fighting Hawks" are the first from Spangdahlem AB to fly with Joint Direct Attack Munitions kits said Lt. Col. Steven Kempf, squadron commander.

"The weapon has been tested repeatedly and has great accuracy," said the commander. "Our test was all about verifying our procedures and processes."

The JDAM is a precision-guided tail kit that converts existing unguided free-fall bombs into accurate, adverse weather "smart" munitions.

This mission was a "success," said Maj. Adrian Pone, 52nd Operations Support Squadron weapons chief.

"Unfortunately due to bad weather we were unable to track the weapons impact with optics," said the major, who piloted one of two chase planes accompanying the two JDAM equipped F-16s. "The only means of assessing hits was with radar. I assess weapon hits."

The mission lasted three hours and 45 minutes and included air refueling, said Maj. Pone. The jets refueled and then headed toward the Welsh range to drop the JDAMs, which fell toward their target at 900 feet per second.

"The 2,000-pound bombs dropped close enough to the target to have demolished it,"



Airman 1st Class Karolina Gmyrek

Lt. Col. Steven Kempf, 23rd Fighter Squadron commander, does a final check on a Joint Direct Attack Munition before departing on a test bombing run over Aberporth Range, United Kingdom, Feb. 12.

said Capt. Sean Rassas, 52nd OSS training chief who along with the commander dropped one of the JDAM equipped inert bombs.

JDAMs were designed partly as a result of lessons learned during operation Desert Storm, where adverse weather conditions limited the use of precision-guided weapons.

"It'll be a much more precise weapon that will increase the target effects and decrease the collateral damage," said Lt. Col. Kempf. "The weapons will go downrange, if required."



Staff Sgt. Tim Cook

Staff Sgt. Jamie L. Jamison, 52nd Security Forces Squadron assistant flight chief, is this week's Top Saber Performer.

## Top Saber Performer

**Name:** Staff Sgt. Jamie L. Jamison  
**Unit:** 52nd Security Forces Squadron  
**Duty title:** Assistant flight chief  
**Hometown:** Baltimore, Md.  
**Years in Service:** 11

**Nominee's contributions to 52nd Fighter Wing mission success:** Staff Sgt. Jamison, the 52nd Security Forces Squadron Delta "Dogs" Flight assistant chief served as chief on the night another security forces member responded to a call about a person who was suspected of being high on PCP, wielding a knife and threatening suicide. Staff Sgt. Jamison quickly evaluated the situation and developed a plan with his partner to distract the suspect. Then he quickly moved in and wrestled the weapon away from the individual, preventing injury to all involved. While this incident is outside the norm, it highlights Staff Sgt. Jamison's expertise and training, as well as that of the entire Delta flight, in keeping Team Eifel safe and secure.

**Off-duty volunteerism and professional development pursuits:** I'm completing studies through University of Maryland, mentoring Spangdahlem Middle School students and serve as treasurer for the King Citadel Military Lodge.

**What do you do for fun?** I enjoy traveling, attending school and volunteering. I believe being involved in the local community affords two Team Eifel members another opportunity in life.

**What do you like most about being stationed here?** I like the work and interacting with other NATO members.

**What's one thing you'd like to see changed or improved at Spangdahlem Air Base?** The less-than-positive attitude demonstrated at times by some wing members.



# Last of the first wave



Senior Airman Christopher Hicks climbs the steps to board the aircraft bound for the Central Command Area of Responsibility Feb. 13. The 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron F-16 phase inspection technician was one of the last of the original 800 Spangdahlem Air Base members slated for deployment in January to support Operation Enduring Freedom.

*Photos by Tim Cook*

Airmen listen for their name as a deployment manager conducts roll-call in the base theater. The list contained the name of more than 150 wing airmen slated to deploy later that afternoon. Deployments took two days to complete.



Staff Sgt. Shawn Riley, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, shakes hands with Col. Thomas Groznik, 52nd Fighter Wing vice commander, before boarding the aircraft bound for the CENTCOM AOR.

Spangdahlem Air Base's last of the first wave of deployments attracted international media attention. Camera crews taped as wing members boarded the aircraft.



Above, Master Sgt. Scott Livingston, 52nd Fighter Wing Safety Office ground safety manager, says goodbye to his family at the base theater before being transported to the flightline. Below, wing leaders wish 52nd Fighter Wing members safe travels as the airmen board the aircraft for deployment.





## Community Mailbox



### Spring bazaar

The Spangdahlem Spouses and Enlisted Members Club seeks volunteers for the spring bazaar, taking place March 14-16. Benefits included childcare costs covered for volunteered hours and a volunteer appreciation event. Call Ms. Laurie Spaltro at 06565-955821 or Ms. Linda Rooney at 06565-933688 for more information.

### Spouses group meeting

■The 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron Spouses Group meets Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Spangdahlem AB Chapel. Call Ms. Joelen Vorbeck at 06565-933487 for more information.

■The 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Spouses Group meets Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the family support center, Bitburg Annex building 2001. Mr. Ed Gavagan speaks on deployed family issues and reunions. An informal cooking lesson also takes place. Children are welcome to attend.

### Customs office

The host nation customs office is located in building 128, Room 207. Services include import permits for property entering Germany, permits to transfer property to local national, verification of status for retirees and widowers, and authorization allowing friends and relatives to operate U.S. Army in Europe plated personal vehicles. Appointments are required and can be scheduled by calling 452-6027.

### Family sponsors needed

The base volunteer resource program seeks volunteers to assist family members evacuated from other bases due to natural disasters or real world events. Program coordinators seek family sponsors, safe haven reception workers and family assistance center staff. Volunteer training and registration takes place Monday at 4:30 p.m. in Bitburg Annex building 2001 and Feb. 28 at 1 p.m. in Spangdahlem AB building 307. Call Ms. Kelly Childs at 452-9491 for more information.

### Le Leche

A meeting for mothers who breastfeed takes place Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Bitburg Annex hospital conference room. Children are welcome to attend. Call Ms. Margaret Loffelman at 06565-7555 for more information.



*Airman 1st Class Karolina Gmyrek*

### A healthy lesson

**Staff Sgt. Tanya Owen, base health and wellness center nutrition technician, discusses the benefits of a low-fat, high-fiber diet in this past week's cholesterol management class. Classes take place each Thursday at 10 a.m. in the HAWC, Spangdahlem Air Base building 130. For more information, call 452-9355.**

### Alcoholics Anonymous

Meetings take place each Tuesday, Friday and Sunday at 7:30 p.m. in Bitburg Annex building 2015.

### CPR course

The American Red Cross is holding an instructor course for First Aid/CPR/automated external defibrillator use. The three-day course begins March 3 at 5 p.m. Cost is \$45, unless volunteering as an American Red Cross instructor. Call 452-9440 or 06565-619440 for more information.

### Equal opportunity

The Spandahlem AB Black Cultural Awareness Association sponsors a bag lunch seminar Wednesday at the wing military equal opportunity office in building 151. For more information, call Mr. Michael Ray at 452-6391 or Master Sgt. Erick Anderson at 452-3131.

### School news

#### Bitburg Elementary School

■The BES Parent and Teacher Association officials seek spring carnival volunteers. The event takes place May 18 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call Staff Sgt. Pamela Troester at 452-6424 for more information or to register.

#### Spangdahlem Elementary School

■School officials seek student mentoring program volunteers to offer academic assistance a minimum of one hour weekly.

Teachers provide assignments and materials. Call Ms. Barabara Triplett at 452-6881 or 452-6170 for more information.

■The SES Parent, Teacher and Student Association seeks volunteers to help with the school talent contest taking place Thursday. Call Senior Master Rick Aldrige at 452-6501 for details.

#### Bitburg High School

■College scholarship applications are available at the BHS counselor's office. Application deadline is Feb. 28.

### Staying fit

The Health and Wellness Center offers the following classes in Spangdahlem AB building 130. For more information, call 452-9355.

■Jump Start nutrition and exercise, Tuesday at 9 a.m.

■Stress Management, Thursday at 1 p.m.

■Singles cooking, Thursday at 6 p.m.

### Volunteers needed

Volunteer help is needed at various base agencies. For more information, call Ms. Kelly Childs, base volunteer resource program manager, at 452-9491.

### Life Skills News

The following workshops take place in Spangdahlem AB building 161, unless specified otherwise. Call the 52nd Medical Group

Life Skills Support Flight at 452-8279 for more information.

■Caring for children through divorce, Monday from 1-3 p.m. Call Ms. Connie Ketchum for details.

■Passport to parenthood, Wednesday from 1-4 p.m. Call Ms. Sharon Gilmore or Ms. Terrie Hostetter for details.

### Family support news

The following workshops take place in Spangdahlem AB building 307. Call 452-9491 for details.

■Preseparation consultation, Monday from 9-10:30 a.m.

■Predeployment briefing, Tuesday from 1-2 p.m.

■Career profiling, building 307, 1-3 p.m.

The following workshops take place in Bitburg Annex building 2001.

■Creative critters, Monday from 10-11 a.m.

■Money management, Tuesday from 6-8 p.m.

### Education center news

The base education office is located in building 192. Call the office at 452-6063 for more information.

■U.S. Air Forces in Europe members who converted from VEAP to the MGIB during the last conversion period must pay \$2,700 within 18 months of the day of signing Defense Department Form 2366 to enroll. Veteran's Education Assistance Program to Montgomery G.I. Bill conversion payments can be made by pay reduction. For more information, call Mr. Hiram Wood at 480-6888.

■The student services component has just been added to the Air Force Virtual Education Center Web site. Students can now create personal AFVEC account and access online customer service tools. Services include Community College of the Air Force transcript requests and CCAF degree progression reports. Visit the AFVEC site at <https://afvec.langley.af.mil> for details

■A University of Maryland University College academic advisor visits Spangdahlem AB March 6 to assist students with their educational goals. Students can call the UMUC office at 452-6637 to schedule appointments.

■Applications for Term IV spouse tuition assistance are available at the base education office. The application deadline March 7 at 4 p.m.

■University of Maryland University College offers a variety of \$500 scholarships for undergraduate and graduate studies that can be used for Term 4 tuition and books, which begins March 31. Visit [www.ed.umuc.edu](http://www.ed.umuc.edu) for scholarship application and requirements. For essay information, visit the UMUC branch office.

## Der Markt

### Free classifieds policy and submission deadlines

Der Markt is for the personal resale of items by military and civilian employees and their families. Items such as advertisements for rental property won't be published due to funded paper restraints. Ads should be 35 words or less and customers are limited to no more than two ads per week. Ads must be typed or printed legibly and turned into the public affairs office, building 23, at least **10 days before the desired date of publication**. Ads can also be e-mailed to [publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil](mailto:publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil) or sent via fax to 452-5254. Having ads in by deadline does not guarantee publication. Ads for services generating regular income will not be published. The ads must include the sponsor's name and telephone number. Ads not meeting these requirements, including those exceeding the designated word limits, will not be printed. The *Eifel Times* staff reserves the right to edit ads.





Col. Stephen Mueller

Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a  
way to get answers to questions  
you still have after using your  
chain of command.

Direct Lines of general  
interest will be published in the  
*Eifel Times* and may be edited or  
paraphrased for brevity or clarity.  
Submit your Direct Line via:

■DirectLine@spangdahlem.  
af.mil

■Mailed to 52nd FW/PA,  
Unit 3680 Box 220, APO AE  
09126

■To PA in building 23.

■Concerns may also be sent  
via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are  
accepted. To receive a personal  
response you must include your  
name and phone number. Call the  
Eifel Times at 452-5244 for more  
information.

Sortie  
Scoreboard

Unit	Goal	Flown
22FS	126	77
23FS	70	73
81FS	97	68

Sorties flown  
Feb. 10-16

(Courtesy of the 52nd Maintenance  
Squadron Plans and Scheduling Section)

# Viewpoint

Feb. 21, 2003

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## From the top

# CMSAF Priority No. 1: Our people

## Presidential budget proposes raise to make mil pay comparable to private sector

By Chief Master Sgt. Gerald R. Murray  
Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force

As units throughout our Air Force deploy, pos-  
ture for deployment or ramp up for accelerated  
operations at home, it's important to know that  
senior leaders are aware of how hard each of you  
is working and that they are grateful for your dedi-  
cation to the mission.

Nowhere is that appreciation more evident than  
in the President's 2004 budget proposal, which  
was unveiled last week. In that proposal, the  
largest chunk of Air Force money is focused on  
you -- our greatest asset. People and quality-of-life  
initiatives make up 34 percent of the \$93.5 billion  
in Air Force money.

The most tangible part of that budget for most  
of us is the proposed pay raise, which ranges from  
2 percent for our E-1s to 6.25 percent for our most  
senior NCOs. I want to take a moment and explain  
the "why's" behind this proposal, and what it  
means to you as an enlisted airman.

We have enjoyed several targeted pay raises in  
the past four years in a concerted effort to bring  
our military pay into a comparable scale with that  
of our private sector counterparts with the same  
level of education and experience. We have been  
very successful in doing that for the majority of  
our junior ranks -- the compensation for an airman  
entering the Air Force out of high school is better

than 85 percent of their former classmates who  
chose to go to work in the private sector. That  
doesn't take into consideration enlistment bonuses,  
or other special and incentive pays the Air Force  
provides to some skills.

However, the gap between civilian and military  
pay widens at the NCO and Senior NCO ranks,

"While we know we can never  
pay you enough for the sacrifices  
you and your families make for  
our country, targeted pay raises  
are a good way for us to reward  
the skill and experience of our  
retention-based force while giving  
our young airmen motivation to  
advance as they look up the pay  
scale."

with our senior NCOs in some cases earning only  
half of what their civilian counterparts with the  
same skills, education and experience level earn.  
The 2004 targeted pay raise proposal will continue  
to address that gap, giving an average pay raise of  
4.6 - 4.8 percent to NCOs, and between 5 percent  
to 6.25 percent for senior NCOs.

## Deployed perspective

# Building for success in the face of uncertainty

By Lt. Col. Hank Reed  
22nd Expeditionary Fighter Squadron commander

As the newest fighter squadron commander in  
the 52nd Operation Group, I was tasked to lead a  
deployment to the U.S. Central Command area of  
responsibility less than a month after I assumed  
command. Mission accomplished, right? Not quite.  
We're successfully and safely in place with 12 F-  
16CJs and more than 260 Team Eifel warriors, but  
the mission continues to evolve and will ultimately  
be determined by our President and combatant  
command authorities.

In the face of an evolving and uncertain (at our  
level) mission and duration, how can we be assured  
of success? The answer lies in two areas that we as  
an Air Force do exceptionally well. The first is  
training in and thorough practice of basic tasks and  
skills. The second builds on the first-active leader-  
ship at all levels to bring those basic skills to bear.

We often underestimate the value of drilling  
"the basics" to the point that they become second  
nature. In preparation for the NATO tactical evalua-  
tion, Team Eifel members did a lot of part task  
training. We drilled in chemical warfare defense  
and self-aid and buddy care. We focused on sur-  
vive-to-operate procedures, generated sorties under  
stress of simulated attack and honed our command  
and control throughout. We put all these elements

together in a week of TAC EVAL practice, but the  
individual elements weren't learned during that  
week. Rather, they were learned, re-learned and  
made second nature in recurring training and in  
daily operations.

The cliché "train like you plan to fight" applies.  
Regular training requirements to qualify in small  
arms, chemical warfare training and first aid are  
vitaly necessary to reinforce core skill sets that  
form the foundation of larger mission accomplish-  
ment. Likewise, core skills practiced everyday and  
in every career field become habit. Of course, those  
habits need to be founded on strict compliance with  
Air Force Instructions and tech orders to be sound.  
The "giant leaps" of an evolving mission are much  
easier if you constantly take smaller steps to make  
the core skill sets second nature and build on those  
skills.

The core skills, while vitally important, are only  
effective tools if wielded through active leadership  
at every level. As an air force we value and train  
leadership in all ranks and supervision levels.  
Commanders and supervisors who recognize that  
talented airmen, NCOs and young officers abound  
in today's Air Force nurture "active" leadership.  
They trust, guide, mentor and provide the resources  
to those talented individuals. They continually  
encourage problem solving and innovation at the

Another factor considered in setting this pro-  
posal was the time a person spends in a particular  
grade. E-1s are in a transitional phase of their  
career. By the time an airman completes basic  
training and technical school, most are already E-  
2s and E-3s. The high promotion rates of the past  
few years have also driven average sew-on times  
down; the average time for promotion to staff ser-  
geant is now 4.6 years, significantly less than  
years past. Those same E-1s coming in now with a  
2 percent pay raise will enjoy the benefits of the  
NCO targeted pay raises much sooner than in the  
past.

While we know we can never pay you enough  
for the sacrifices you and your families make for  
our country, targeted pay raises are a good way for  
us to reward the skill and experience of our reten-  
tion-based force while giving our young airmen  
motivation to advance as they look up the pay  
scale.

In today's environment of high operations  
tempo, deployments and demanding missions,  
every member of our force is an integral part of  
the team, and we will continue to seek adequate  
pay and compensation for all you do. The Air  
Force needs each one of you to understand the  
immense value you are to the organization and to  
continue to carry your weight every day. Thank  
you for your dedicated service, and what you do  
for our great nation.

lowest level and they train their replacements.

I expect the tenacity of a "pit bull on a leash" in  
leaders within my squadron and outside it. That's  
not to say I want rogues doing their own thing,  
rather I value leaders who recognize and attack  
challenges. Commanders who clearly communicate  
their vision and goals for their unit can let those pit  
bulls run empowered as one team in one direction-  
toward mission success.

A unique operating environment like our  
deployed location is where we tie the foundation of  
core skills together with active leadership to ensure  
mission success. The Air Force as an institution  
does a good job of anticipating which skill sets we  
need and then training us appropriately.

In a new and unique operating environment  
active leaders have to reinforce some skills not rou-  
tinely used at home. Further, active leaders must  
anticipate new skills required to adapt to the envi-  
ronment and train accordingly. Our innovative  
young leaders identify new procedures and thus,  
we sometimes have additional skills to practice  
until they become rote as well.

While I don't know exactly what the future has  
in store for the men and women under my com-  
mand, I feel confident of success because we have  
active and innovative leaders operating on a firm  
foundation of core skills.



## Movies

All movies play at 7 p.m. unless indicated. More synopsis information is available at [www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp](http://www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp).

### Bitburg Castle

Today

*Narc (R)*

A narcotics cop is assigned to help uncover the truth behind the murder of a young officer. He teams up with the deceased officer's partner and the cover-up they unravel could destroy them both. (Violence, drug content, language.)

Saturday

*Extreme Ops (PG-13)*

A film crew travels to the Austrian Alps where they plan to film three extreme sports. However, they happen to film a war criminal and he gives chase, forcing the crew through a number of extreme situations. (Violence, language and nudity.)

Sunday

*The Truth About Charlie (PG-13)*

Regina returns home to find that her husband has been murdered. Their apartment and bank account have been emptied. His murder transforms into a belief that, in fact, she must learn the truth about Charlie. (Violence and nudity.)

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday

*Narc*

Thursday

*The Emperor's Club (PG-13)*

William Hundert finds his world of tradition up ended with the arrival of a new freshman, the son of a senator. Almost immediately, they become embroiled in a turbulent battle of wills. (Sexual content.)

### Spangdahlem Skyline

Today

*Just Married (PG-13)*

The perfect honeymoon of two wealthy young newlyweds turns into their worst experience. (Sexual content, crude humor and drug references.)

*Analyze That (R, 10 p.m.)*

Paul Vitti is let out of prison and hooks up with therapist Ben Sobel, who may need more psychological help now than his mobster patient. (Language and sexual content.)

Saturday

*Treasure Planet (PG, 4 p.m.)*

Young Jim Hawkins joins the crew of an intergalactic expedition as cabin boy aboard a space galleon. Befriended by the ship's cook, a cyborg named John Silver, Jim blossoms under his guidance and to become a fine "spacer." (Peril.)

*Just Married*

*Die Another Day (PG-13)*

Bond is on the trail of the deadly megalomaniac Gustav Graves and his ruthless right-hand man, the North Korean Zao. (Violence and sexuality.)

Sunday

*Treasure Planet (4 p.m.)*

*Analyze That*

Monday

*Die Another Day*

Tuesday

*Just Married*

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Times and movies are subject to change.  
For the most current information,  
call 452-9441.



File photo by Ms. Iris Reiff

### Ladies take over

Two women dressed as "Moehnen" carry a banner made out of oversized bloomers that reads, "The city hall has been captured." Traditionally, Fasching celebrations kick off with Ladies Day. On this day, "old women," who are usually younger women in costume, capture the local city hall and take the city key from the mayor. Customarily, women also cut men's ties this day, so it's advisable to wear an old one. The event always takes place at 11:11 a.m. Ladies Day events take place Feb. 27 at the Bitburg and Wittlich city halls.

## Winter bares ancient roadside shrines

### Crosses of old reveal superstitious fears, past tragedies

By Ms. Iris Reiff  
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Although aesthetically plain, winter's bare trees and bushes reveal insights to ancient Germanic and Roman beliefs and fears. Roadside crosses, commonly found along farming paths and in open fields, were built to ward off demonic forces.

The tradition of building these shrines and crosses dates back to ancient Roman and Germanic times. The Roman crosses; however, had a different meaning than the ones built later.

Until 460 B.C., the Romans believed demons gathered at road crossings to mislead and irritate travelers. Calling upon the "road gods," the locals made sacrifices and built crosses to chase away the demons. Other shrines built at the time-marked people's property or served as a location point for court trials.

While most of the ancient crosses have disappeared throughout the years, many Christian shrines still exist. Today, people still lay wreaths or flowers at the crosses in honor of accident victims.

Crosses that show an engraved skull with two crossing bones were built as

memorials for the dead, often in honor of loved ones who didn't return from war.

Another category of crosses was built for pilgrims to pray. People prayed there for a variety of different reasons, such as for a good harvest.

In Binsfeld, there are two particularly interesting crosses. The first is a plague cross, built in 1631 by the Dietzen family. It was built in memory of a child who suffered from the plague. People often sacrificed food at the shrine for the poor and sick. The second cross, which dates back to 1551, located on Geoergstrasse, served as a postal station for the Liege, Belgium, to Vienna, Austria, postal route. It was there that the post wagon exchanged horses and picked up or dropped off mail.

On a forest road near the Herforst government-leased housing area stands the Wenzelhausen wolf cross. Many people fought battles against wolves there. In celebration of their survival, people built a cross.

Walking through Binsfeld and the surrounding neighborhood, hikers can find 17 road crosses, which were all built between 1551 and 1820.



Ms. Iris Reiff

Roadside crosses vary in shape and sizes. Some are literally crosses, some bearing a crucifix, while others are posts topped with a small boxed shrine typically containing a religious icon.



Master Sgt. Chadwick Eiring

### Making their own sunshine

Right, Community members of Geilenkirchen Air Base, Germany, chase the winter blahs away with a January winter festival. The event featured a chili cook-off, games, door prizes and a bouncing castle for children. Above, Kim Myers, family support center, brightens a "nail salon" customer's day by painting her nails in spring colors.





# Lady Barons tame Panthers

Win earns junior varsity Ladies Division II league championship

By Denny Lemmon

Lady Barons basketball coach

This past weekend the Lady Barons basketball teams completed their league competition by winning all four games at Patch Barracks, Germany. The competition was tough but it made the Lady Barons just a little stronger as the team prepares to defend its Division II Central European title this weekend.

The junior varsity team won Friday 38-36 and Saturday 23-21. The Lady Panthers junior varsity team was previously undefeated, making the victories a little more special for Coach Richard Carr's troops. With the two wins, the Barons won the Division II league championship with an 11 win and one loss record.

## Varsity action

Before the weekend competition, the Lady Panthers varsity was second in the league with only two losses to Hanau. It wasn't easy, but the Barons won on Friday 42-40 and Saturday 33-27. The victories gave the Barons varsity a six win, six loss league record.

The Lady Barons struggled offensively before a packed Patch Barracks gym Friday night. The Panthers played a box and one on Nadia Parker and the Barons. Trailing 10-7 at the end of the first quarter, the Barons outscored their hosts 14-5 to take a 21-13 half-time lead. In the third quarter Layla Hicks, the outstanding Panther guard, scored 14 of her game high 22 points to put the Panthers ahead again 35-34. Despite being double teamed, Parker scored six of her game high 24 points in the fourth quarter. The Barons outscored their opponents 8-5 to squeeze out the victory.

In Saturday's game, the Panthers played the same defensive strategy in an attempt to slow down Barons scoring. The strategy worked well as the Barons only managed 16 total points. Fortunately Tanja Moore stepped forward and scored eight points in the first half to give the Barons a rather shaky 16-13 first-half lead.

The Barons also used a special triangle and two defense in an attempt to control the Panthers high scoring guards. Hernandez and Winters took on that job and did it well. In the third quarter both teams had a difficult time putting the ball in the basket with Patch getting eight to the Barons six. The Barons led 22-21 going into the fourth quarter so the Panthers stepped up their pressure defense.

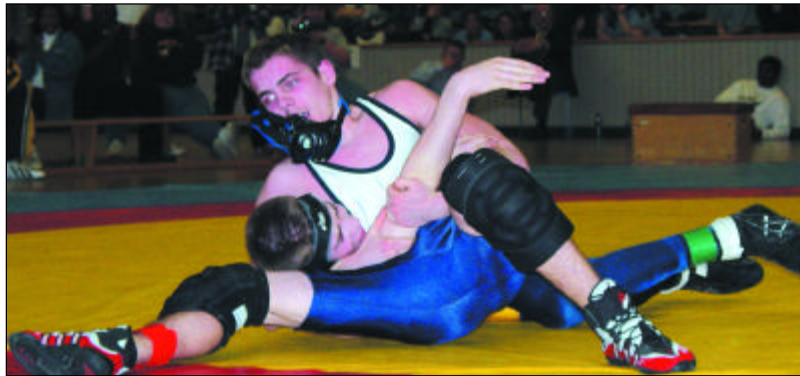
Senior Captain Sabrina Blaus made two crucial shots to give the Barons a bit of breathing space. With four minutes to go in the game, Point Guard Erica Winters fouled out of the game. That put the ball handling skills into the hands of two Freshmen Monica Bintz and Hernandez. Hernandez shot two for two from the charity line to ice the victory for the Barons.

## Junior varsity action

The junior varsity games were just as exciting and just as hard to win. Friday's game was tied after the first quarter 8-8. In the second quarter, Hernandez checked in to play and immediately found the zone hitting 13 of her game high 18 points. The Barons led 21-20 but had to play the third quarter without Hernandez. At the start of the fourth quarter the Barons trailed 33-25. In that final quarter, the Barons pulled together to outscore their hosts 13-3 which gave them the victory.

Saturday the Panthers jumped off to a 6-2 lead. The Barons outscored the Panthers 10-2 to lead at the half 12-8. In the third quarter, Jazmine Winn scored seven points to give the Barons a 19-17 lead going into the fourth quarter. The Panthers scored four to tie the game and then point guard Melodie Duperval scored the final two points to earn the Barons game victory.

Members of that championship team are: Hernandez, Bintz, Duperval, Winn, Drake, Sascha Davidson, Rachel Neice, Renee Flemmings, Casey Martin, Jessica Renaud, Krystal Vasquez, managers Ashley Weston, Joanna Booth and Shelly Reeves.



Jay Gardner

## Raw power

Above, Sophomore Devon Gardner drops challenger, Andrew Zachar from Heidelberg, with a powerful head-and-arm that ripped his headgear off during the All-European wrestling championships in Wiesbaden, Germany, Feb. 15. Right, Jon Coker bear-hugs his Kaiserslautern opponent to the ground during the meet. For his performance, Gardner was crowned Europe's best wrestler in the 125 pound weight class beating out 400 other wrestlers. Also earning places in the elite All-Europe team were Daniel Brunal with fourth place at 103 pounds, Jon Coker with third place at 112, Anthony Messina with fifth place at 112, Jordan Watts with sixth place at 171, and Randy Van Ginkle with fourth place at 275.



*Barons varsity win some, lose some*

# BHS team beats Patch by four Friday, Patch bounces back with Saturday win

Story and photo by  
Beverly Phillips

Barons basketball correspondent

The Bitburg High School Barons basketball team broke through with its first win in nearly four weeks by defeating Patch 49-45 Friday night. All of the Baron starters delivered a concerted effort that kept Patch off-stride and away from its game plan.

Joel Brown scored 11 points. Joel Parker followed with nine points, and Erik Pumbo and B.J. Phillips each accounted for eight points. Alyx Walks added seven and Ryan Thomas contributed six.

Brown and Phillips shared the rebounding lead with nine apiece. Parker had seven and Walks garnered five. Coach Lin Hairstone was concerned, however, that his team was being beaten too often on the offensive boards. For the game, Bitburg had only 11 offensive rebounds. Turnovers were also a problem as the Barons lost possession 20 times compared to 15 miscues by the Patch Panthers.

The Barons' shooting percentage improved from past weeks; however, as they hit on more than 50 percent of their two-point attempts and 30 percent from three-point range.

Pumbo and Parker also found ways to get the ball to the open man, dishing out seven and six assists, respectively.

While the Barons hit an even higher percentage of their shots, Saturday's game spooled out along different lines. Patch controlled the opening tip and used the possession to stake the home team to 3-0 lead. Although Bitburg rallied several times and was losing by only 21-18 at the end of the first quarter, Patch never trailed in the game. The final score was 80-68.

An encouraging note for the Barons was Parker's performance, in which he recovered his early-season with 23 points and 14 rebounds. Pumbo, Thomas, and Phillips also scored in double figures, but the Barons faltered defensively. After Brown got into foul trouble early, the Barons appeared to be hesitant to challenge the Patch scorers. Even so, Brown, Phillips and Thomas all fouled out and Parker finished with four fouls. As a team, Bitburg attempted just eight free throws compared to Patch's 36 attempts.

Coach Lin Hairstone also lamented his team's lack of quickness on transition.



Bitburg High School Barons Joel Parker, in white, rises above the competition to make the shot in Saturday's game against Patch. Player No. 43, B.J. Phillips, gets in position for the rebound.

"We have to have the whole team playing with intensity for 32 minutes," he said. "The problem is, too often only one or two of our players are giving 100 percent the whole game. And we have to start the game playing like we mean it. Come tournament time, we can't afford to spend a quarter or two waking up."

The Barons play in the Division II tournament at Mannheim, Germany, this weekend with one last chance to redeem their season.

## Junior varsity action

Barons junior varsity finished its season on a losing note, but played valiantly to the end.

Anthony Fornicola continued his dominance of the boards with 11 rebounds in Friday's 47-33 loss. Mike Hunter led Bitburg's scoring with 13 points. Brandon Morales, playing a vital role with his quickness and hustle to the ball, scored seven points. Jamar Robinson had five assists and three steals. Hunter also had five steals, five rebounds, and five blocked shots.

Morales had 11 rebounds, three assists and two steals in Saturday's 45-33 loss. In addition to six rebounds, Fornicola blocked five shots. Trey Wilson and Helmut Woodberry led scorers with ten and eight points, respectively. Ryan Dumas added two steals and two assists.